

TELECOMMUNICATIONS BULLETIN

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CMS 05- 15

**Bureau of Communication
and Computer Services**

From:

Theresa Starling

Manager, Communications
Solution Center

Chicago Bans Hand-Held Cellular Phones for Drivers

Please be advised that the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance to ban drivers from using hand-held cellular phones while driving within the city limits effective July 8, 2005. Coordinators should notify agency cellular users living in or around the city and users who periodically travel to Chicago of this new ordinance to ensure these individuals have appropriate hands-free accessories.

The following news excerpt was taken directly from Crain's Daily News Alert:

Chicago bans hand-held cell phones for drivers
From the AP Newsroom
Measure goes into effect July 8 with fine of \$50
May 11 16:27:00, 2005

(AP) — Chicago officials voted Wednesday to ban drivers from using hand-held cell phones starting this summer and set fines of \$50 and up for violators.

The Chicago measure requires drivers to use hands-free devices if they talk on the phone unless they are making 911 emergency calls or are talking while the vehicle is parked. The proposal would not apply to law enforcement officials and on-duty operators of emergency vehicles.

The penalties for using a hand-held phone would be \$50, or \$200 if the driver was involved in an accident.. It takes effect July 8, Natarus said.

CMS currently supports several cellular phone models provided by multiple carriers. Ear buds and headphones are available on most all models issued within the past 24 months with unit costs averaging \$20 -\$25 for Verizon accessories, \$52 for Nextel, and \$33 for Cingular equipment. Through July 23, 2005, Verizon is offering additional discounts on hands-free accessories with no minimum purchase requirement.

For specific price quotes, inquiries about universal accessories, or to determine the availability of headphone units on older cellular equipment, please contact the CMS Communications Solution Center (CSC) at the number below. The CSC staff can also discuss upgrade options for older cellular units and answer any additional questions you may have regarding speaker features, voice recognition, and other cellular options.

Communications Solution Center

800-366-8768

or

217-524-4784

**Option 2: New/Existing Services
Sub Option 5: Cellular**

For more information...
visit our website at
www.state.il.us/cms/telecom